Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device that switches data packets, the method comprising the steps of:

transferring and buffering in a memory area, via the communications device, the data packets and respectively allocated loss priority information in relation to a specific connection;

reading the packet loss priority information from the buffered data packets;

modifying the packet loss priority information of the buffered data packet depending on ~~at least one of~~ the specific connection ~~type and~~ or application-specific data traffic type; and

restoring, after a data packet has been switched in the communications device, the original packet loss priority information in the corresponding data packet.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, the method further comprising the steps of:

recording the packet loss priority information read from the buffered data packet in an additional communications-device-specific data packet header;

attaching the additional data packet header to the buffered data packet; and

switching the buffered data packet, including the attached additional data packet header, in the communications device.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, the method further comprising the step of:

allocating different loss priorities to the respective data packet by the packet loss priority information.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, the method further comprising the step of:

modifying the respective data packets of a group of data packets with packet loss priority information depending on at least one of the connection type and the application-specific data traffic type.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 9, the method further comprising the step of:

removing the additional communications-device-specific data packet header attached to the data packet after a data packet has been switched in the communications device.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 8, wherein, in cell-switching communications devices, the packet loss priority information is cell loss priority information.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A method for aligning packet loss priority information for overload control of a communications device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the cell loss priority information is formed from information having one bit.